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Milcah And Iscah

LAST UPDATED ON: AUGUST 3, 2023 AT 1:20 AM BY REBECCA WALLACE KEENE (HTTPS://WWW.PATHEOS.COM/BLOGS/RECLAIMINGTHETRUTH/AUTHOR/RKEENE/)

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Milcah and Iscah

Milcah and Iscah are two women we don't often hear about. Yet, both played powerful prophetic roles. In fact, you may know Iscah by another name, Sarah.

Iscah is Sarah?

According to Genesis, the two were sisters. **Genesis 11:29 (https://biblehub.com/genesis/11-29.htm)** explains that they are the daughters of Haran. They married brothers, Abraham and Nahor. This verse also happens to be the only place we see the name Iscah. The Midrash when attempting to explain why this named woman was only mentioned once says this is Sarah. She is here called Iscah because Iscah means she saw through the Holy Spirit, and Sarah was Prophetic.

The Gift of Prophecy in Milcah and Iscah

Yet this gift did not reside with Sarah alone. Her sister, Milcah, is said, in The Midrash, to be the mother of all prophets to Non-Israelites. This is because she is the grandmother of Rebekah who gives birth to Jacob. Milcah is mentioned many times throughout scripture as Rebekah's grandmother. However, some scholars suggest that something may have been misinterpreted in the scripture and she may, in fact, be the mother of Rebekah. Still, it is clear that Jacob, who later becomes known as Israel, descends from her. For this reason, she is the mother of all prophets to Non-Israelites.

Milcah's Descendants

Not much else is known of Milcah, except that she had many children. **Genesis 22:20 (https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=genesis%2022&version=NIV)** tells us she had eight sons with her husband Nahor, who is the brother of Abraham. Her children were, as listed by the verse, "Uz the firstborn, Buz his brother, Kemuel (the father of Aram), [22] Kesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph and Bethuel." [23] Bethuel became the father of Rebekah."

Incestual Geneology?

Some reading this story may wonder if this genealogy does not go against The Law. After all, relations between an aunt and a nephew are forbidden. However, as it turns out, marriages between uncles and nieces were not forbidden. Thank you patriarchy! That is sarcasm, in case you didn't catch it.

Remember the Prophets Milcah and Iscah

Though the text of The Torah mentions these women only in the genealogy, The Midrash assures us these women were mentioned by name for a reason. They were powerful prophets. They may, in fact, be the first of the Jewish prophets. These women are remembered because they had the gift of seeing through The Holy Spirit. Therefore, let us not forget the names Milcah and Iscah when we speak of the prophets. Let us not tell women they cannot be prophets. Rather, let us harken our ears and our hearts to the message women see through the Holy Spirit. We must remember that the first to hear the voice of the Ruach was two women. Ladies, let us be like Milcah and Iscah and see through The Holy Spirit.

Please stay tuned for the continuation of The Women in The Bible series. Please **click this link (https://www.patheos.com/blogs/reclaimingthetruth/)** and subscribe to the newsletter, to be alerted when new articles are published. Also, our guest blogger, Joseph Parks, will return next week with a lesson about how Ancient Egyptian Culture influenced The Torah.

Works Cited:

Milcah – Wikipedia (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milcah?fbclid=IwAR1OZA1kyDEEUTuDTAN0kIU5OiaGM2W51VIzAxYro1KHCBF6sG_EaGlZSSQ)

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ABOUT REBECCA KEENE

The author, Rebecca Keene, has a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Religion. She graduated from the University of Pikeville as Religion Honor Student in 2014. Currently, she is studying for a MA in Women, Gender, Spirituality, and Social Justice at the California Institute of Integral Studies. Also, Rebecca is the author of FAITH UNDER THE RAINBOW: RECLAIMING THE TRUTH ABOUT HOMOSEXUALITY AND THE BIBLE. In addition, she founded and independently runs the social media community, Reclaiming the Truth. Therefore, you should visit Rebecca's author page and purchase her books at: Amazon Author Page or: Publication Page Rebecca is currently in her 3rd year of Kabbalah study. She is ordained to perform LGBT weddings and is certified in Hypnotherapy. Rebecca lives in Kentucky with her two adult children. She practices Non-Denominational Judaism. She is passionate about social justice and fiercely advocates for the marginalized in society and religion. When not with her children or writing, Rebecca enjoys

spending time in nature, with G-d, or in a good book. She also enjoys making and selling art which you can find at Art by Rebecca. Author, Rebecca Keene, is always happy to hear from readers. You may contact her through the Reclaiming the Truth page on Facebook, or you can email keenerebecca@yahoo.com Rebecca will try to answer all correspondence, but please be patient, as life is busy for us all. You can read more about the author here. (https://www.amazon.com/stores/REBECCA-Keene/author/B09415XCTT?ref=ap_rdr&store_ref=ap_rdr&isDramIntegrated=true&shoppingPortalEnabled=true)

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